

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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R 201300Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2229

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 5320

EXDIS

FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (MATHIAS, CHARLES)

SUBJECT: CODEL MATHIAS: WRITTEN QUESTIONS LEFT WITH EMBASSY

REF: (A) STATE 94344, (B) CAIRO 5090

1. EMBASSY POUCHED COPY OF CODEL'S QUESTIONS TO UNDER SECRETARY SISCO'S OFFICE ON APRIL 19 AS STATED REF B.

2. WE APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S OFFER TO PREPARE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WHICH GO BEYOND OUR CAPABILITIES OR INVOLVE MATTERS BEST HANDLED IN WASHINGTON (REF A). TO FACILITATE RESPONSE, WE ARE REPEATING BELOW THOSE WHICH WE FEEL FALL INTO ABOVE CATEGORIES. ALL OF OUR ANSWERS, OF COURSE, WILL BE SUBJECT TO DEPARTMENT'S SCRUTINY AND APPROVAL.

3. RE TIMING, WE WERE ADVISED BY CODEL STAFF THAT THEY HOPE TO HAVE RESPONSES READY FOR INCORPORATION IN REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED MAY 15 (ALTHOUGH THEY ADMIT THIS MAY BE UNREALISTIC). SENATOR TOLD AMB HE WOULD APPRECIATE REPLIES ASAP AND WE ARE WORKING ON THAT BASIS. EMBASSY PLANS TO HAVE ITS CONTRIBUTION READY FOR POUCHING TO DEPARTMENT BY COB APRIL 28 AT THE LATEST.

4. SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS, KEYED TO CODEL'S LIST:

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A. MILITARY

(8) IN SADAT'S RECENT EUROPEAN TOUR, WHAT MILITARY DEALS WERE STRUCK OR HINTED AT? SPECIFICS? -(WE HAVE REPORTS FROM VARIOUS POSTS, BUT HARD INFO IS LIMITED).

(9) WHAT IS THE U.S. ESTIMATE OF THE THREAT TO EGYPT? (THIS IS A JUDGMENT BEST MADE IN WASHINGTON.)

(11) PLEASE PROVIDE A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF EGYPTIAN AND LIBYAN MILITARY CAPABILITIES. EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI. EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN. EGYPTIAN AND JORDANIAN. PLEASE DO EACH ON A 3-YEAR COMPARATIVE BASIS (WHILE WE CAN ASSESS EGYPTIAN MILITARY CAPABILITIES, WE ARE NOT ABLE TO DO SO MEANINGFULLY FOR ISRAELIS, LIBYANS, JORDANIANS OR SYRIANS.)

B. POLICIAL (NONE)

C. ECONOMIC-FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

(8) PLEASE PROVIDE A TEN-YEAR COMPARISON OF INFLATION RATES FOR EGYPT. (IBRD REPORT COVERS ONLY PAST FEW YEARS.)

D. U.S. ASSISTANCE (NONE).

E. OTHER ISSUES

(3) SFM - WHAT ARE THE WITHDRAWAL CONTINGENCIES FOR THE SFM SHOULD A CONFLICT IN THE SINAI OCCUR? (WE HAVE NOT BEEN DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN E AND E PLANNING OR SFM.)
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